

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

DDMHS, Weeks Building, 103 South Main Street, Waterbury, VT 05671-1601 (802-241-2638)

MEMORANDUM

TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Advisory Group and Interested Parties

FROM: John Pandiani and Sheila Pomeroy

DATE: April 13, 2001

RE: Rates of Seclusion at the Vermont State Hospital

As part of the Sixteen State Performance Indicator Project, Vermont is computing rates of seclusion and restraint at the Vermont State Hospital (overall and for selected client groups). This week's PIP presents rates of seclusion at the Vermont State Hospital (overall, by gender, and by age) for each of the past ten years. We look forward to having similar data from fifteen other states for purposes of comparison.

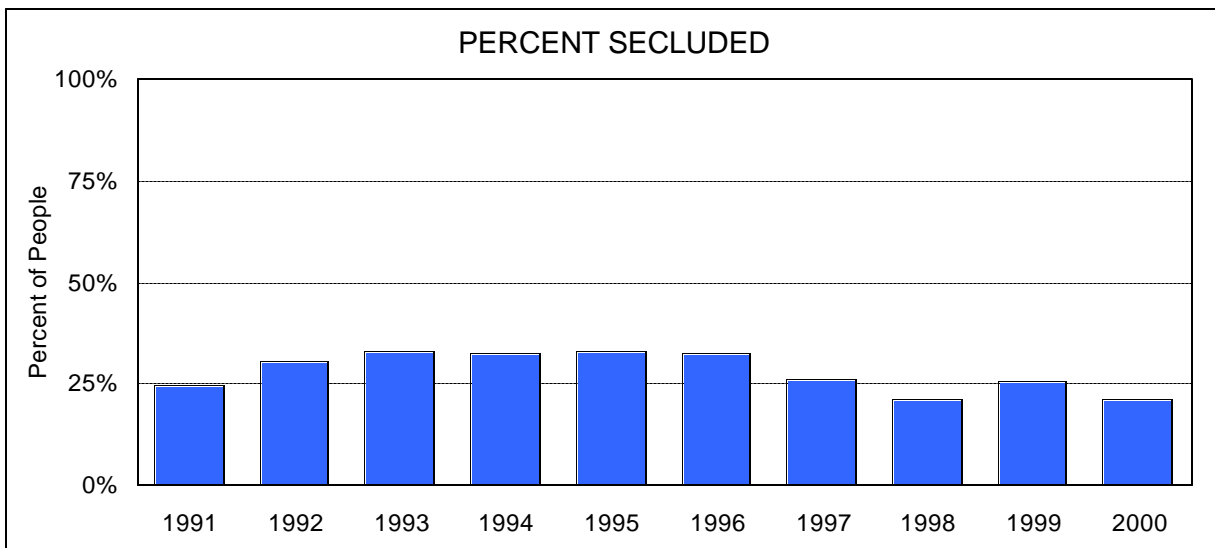
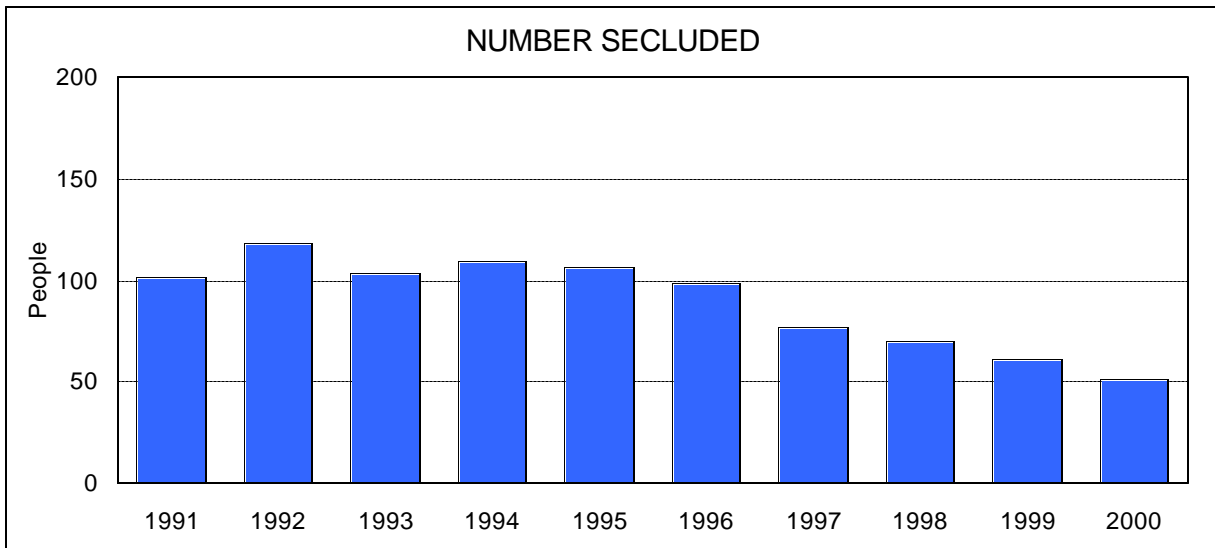
Seclusion and restraint are included as indicators of the performance of mental health service systems based on the belief that, *"Mental health service providers that are consumer-focused value an individual's autonomy and independence. Therefore, these providers seek to maximize the use of service modalities that are minimally, if at all, restrictive. While restrictive treatments are sometimes necessary, utilization of such treatments must be minimized and closely monitored. Overutilization of highly restrictive treatments may represent the unavailability of more appropriate, less restrictive therapies or the presence of treatment providers who lack respect for client autonomy and dignity."* (Performance Measures for Mental Health Systems developed by the Technical Workgroup to the NASMHPD President's Task Force on Performance Indicators, <http://www.rdmc.org/nri/firstpage.htm>).

As you will see, the proportion of VSH patients who were secluded each year increased from 25% to 33% during the first half of the 1990s and then decreased to 21% in 2000. Throughout this ten-year period, women were more likely to be placed in seclusion than men. In most years there was very little difference in the rate of seclusion for patients under 40 years of age compared to older patients.

We look forward to your comments, questions, and suggestions for further analysis of data used in this report and the reports on involuntary treatment at the Vermont State Hospital that will follow. As always, you can reach us at 802-241-2638 or jpandiani@ddmhs.state.vt.us.

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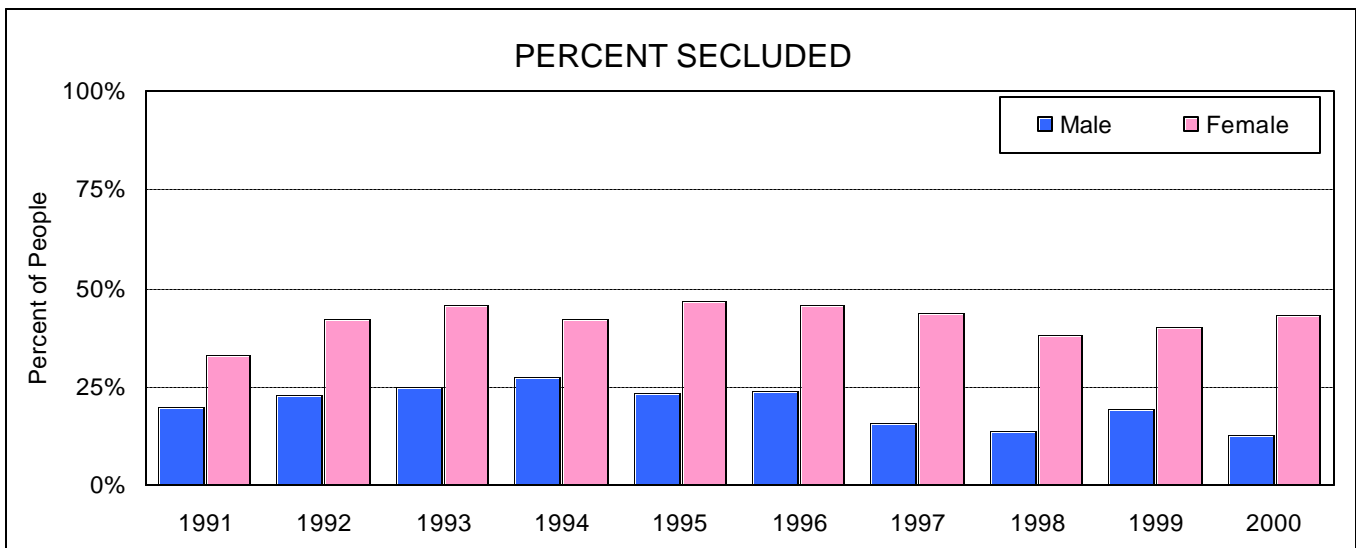
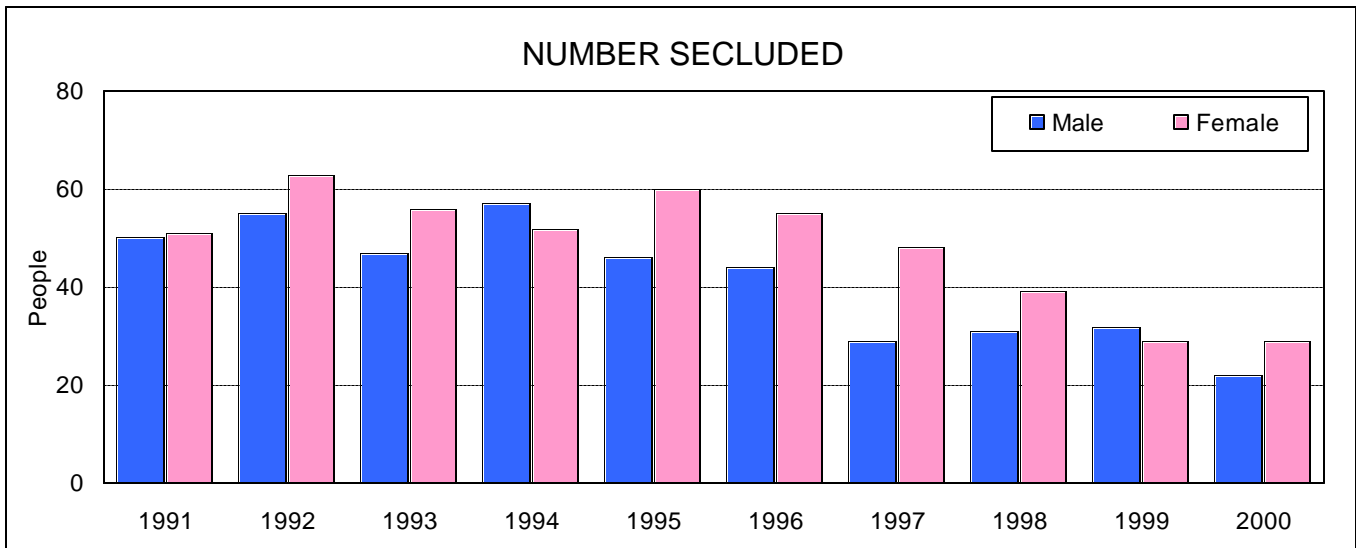
TOTAL PATIENTS SECLUDED: FY 1991 - FY 2000



FY	Total Number in VSH	Number Secluded	Percent Secluded
2000	243	51	21%
1999	240	61	25%
1998	327	70	21%
1997	294	77	26%
1996	305	99	32%
1995	323	106	33%
1994	333	109	33%
1993	311	103	33%
1992	389	118	30%
1991	408	101	25%

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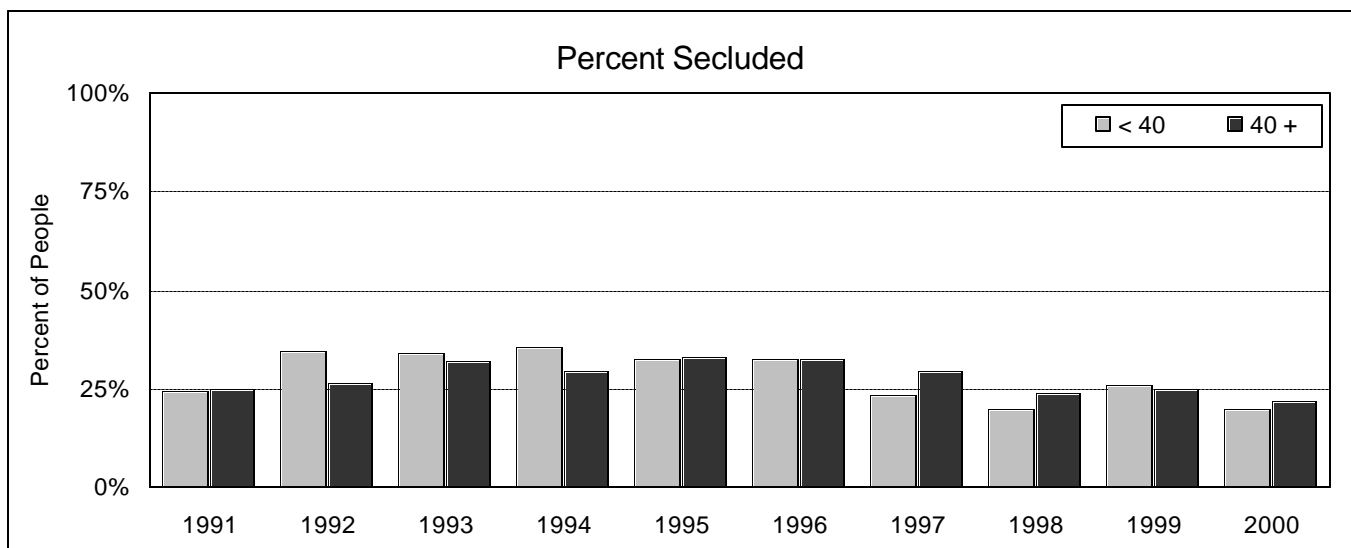
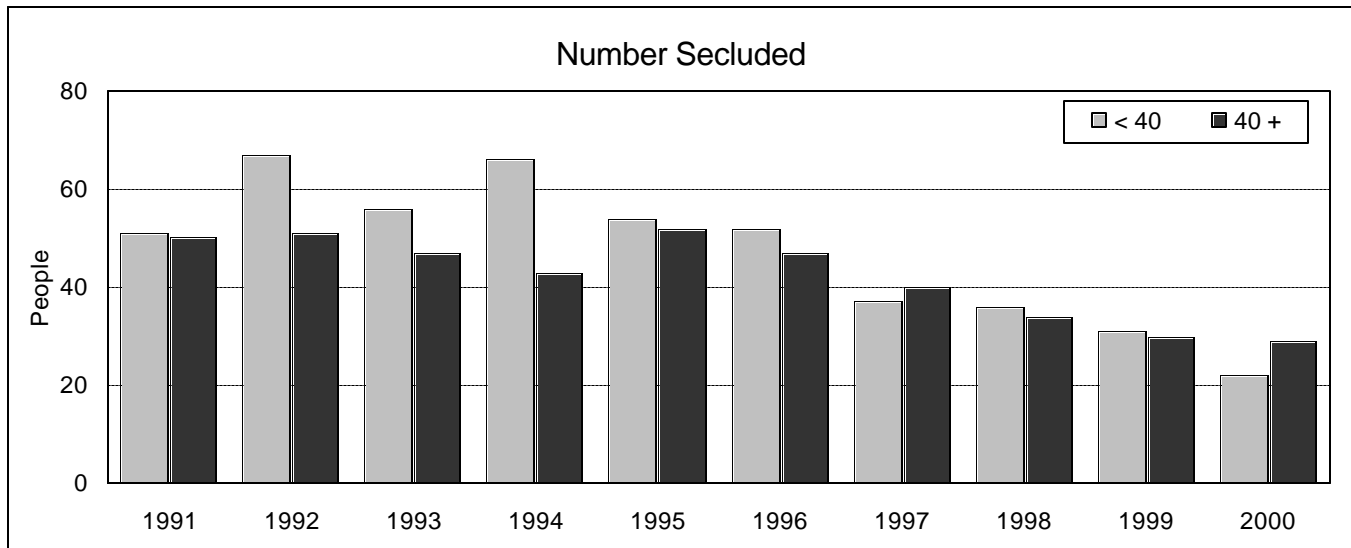
MALE AND FEMALE PATIENTS SECLUDED : FY 1991 - FY 2000



FY	Male			Female		
	Total	Secluded		Total	Secluded	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
2000	176	22	13%	67	29	43%
1999	168	32	19%	72	29	40%
1998	225	31	14%	102	39	38%
1997	184	29	16%	110	48	44%
1996	184	44	24%	121	55	45%
1995	195	46	24%	128	60	47%
1994	209	57	27%	124	52	42%
1993	189	47	25%	122	56	46%
1992	239	55	23%	150	63	42%
1991	254	50	20%	154	51	33%

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PATIENTS UNDER 40 AND 40 YEARS AND OLDER SECLUDED: FY 1991 - FY 2000



FY	Less than 40			40 and Older		
	Total	Secluded		Total	Secluded	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
2000	111	22	20%	132	29	22%
1999	119	31	26%	121	30	25%
1998	183	36	20%	144	34	24%
1997	157	37	24%	137	40	29%
1996	161	52	32%	144	47	33%
1995	165	54	33%	158	52	33%
1994	186	66	35%	147	43	29%
1993	164	56	34%	147	47	32%
1992	194	67	35%	195	51	26%
1991	209	51	24%	199	50	25%